

HOLLYWOOD

Confessions

GET OFF THIS
SET! **EVERYBODY!**
YOU STAY, LAURA!
... I WANT TO
TALK TO YOU!

I DON'T CARE
IF HE **IS** THE
PRODUCER! ... I'M
LEAVING! HE'S
RAVING LIKE A
MADMAN!

10¢

Joe Kubert





Wool Jersey goes Gala

in 3 blouses and a skirt *by*

nan Dorsey

MAIL THIS ORDER FORM TODAY!
We'll rush it to your nearest Nan Dorsey store.

KAUFMAN KNITTING COMPANY—DEPT. A,
27 North Fourth Street, Minneapolis 1, Minn.
Please have my nearest store send me the following Nan Dorsey
wool Jerseys, as pictured in "Teen Age Romances."

I am enclosing CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER ☐ COD ☐

	Quantity	Sizes	Colors	2nd Choice
No. 1668 Striped Blouse				
No. 1730 Dirndl Skirt				
No. 1729 Gaucho Blouse				
No. 1728 Polka Dot Blouse				

Individual store policy on C.O.D. costs will be observed.

Name
Address
City Zone State

You'll love the way you look in fresh-feeling, fresh-appearing, flattering wool jersey . . . here, in three "go-everywhere" blouses and a "goes-with-everything" skirt . . . designed, styled and crafted by NAN DORSEY.

Left No. 1668—Striped blouse. Gray with red stripe, gray with blue stripe, brown with orange stripe, brown with green stripe. Sizes 32 to 38. **\$4.00**

Center No. 1729—Solid color, with the flattering gaucho collar. Gray, black, Kelly green, brown, red, gold or navy. Sizes 32 to 38. **\$3.00**

Left No. 1730—The "Wear it everywhere" skirt. Dirndl, Lastex top, in gray heather or beige heather. Sizes small, medium, large. **\$6.00**

Right No. 1728—Polka Dot, with new club collar. Navy with red dot, gray with green dot, red with black dot, beige with brown dot. Sizes 32 to 38. **\$4.00**

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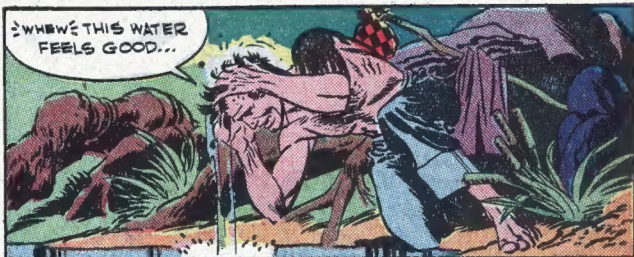
THIS IS THE STORY OF A MAN, JACK DIAMOND BY NAME, WHO PUT HIS DREAMS OF POWER AND SUCCESS ABOVE THE FEELINGS OF HIS FELLOW MAN—EVEN **ABOVE THE WOMAN HE LOVED!** IT WAS TOO LATE WHEN HE REALIZED THAT SELFISH LUST FOR SUCCESS RESULTS ONLY IN HEART-BREAK, FAILURE AND **LONELINESS!** AND THIS IS THE STORY OF JACK DIAMOND'S DECISION THAT IT WAS—

Success or **ELSE!**



IF SHEER WILL POWER COULD BE USED AS A YARD-STICK FOR MEASURING SUCCESS, JACK DIAMOND REACHED THE APEX OF HIS PROFESSION. BUT EVERY STORY HAS A BEGINNING, AND I GUESS I **SHOULD** BEGIN AT THE BEGINNING...! JACK DIAMOND CAME TO HOLLYWOOD IN THAT CONDITION WHICH MANY LEAVE HOLLYWOOD... A **PENNILESS HOBO**...

WHWHE THIS WATER FEELS GOOD...



I SHOULD MAKE LOS ANGELES BY DAWN...! I GUESS THERE'S BEEN MORE THAN **ONE** GUY WITH THE IDEAS I'VE GOT-CHURNING MY BRAIN TO A LATHER... BUT I'M THE ONE THAT WILL BRING THOSE IDEAS INTO **ACTUAL BEING!**



I'M NOT ALL THOSE OTHER GUYS...I'M **JACK DIAMOND!**



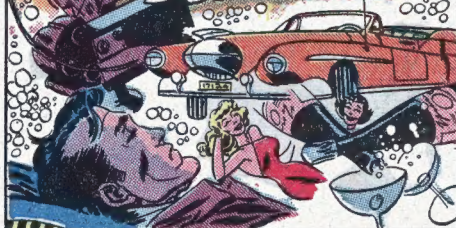
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHO I AM? MY NAME'S **JOAN BARRIE**-THAT'S RIGHT, THE MOVIE STAR...

YES... HE **WAS** JACK DIAMOND! A MAN WHO WOULD FOREGO ANYTHING... SLEEP... FOOD... **EVEN CONSCIENCE!** BUT THAT FINAL GOAL MUST... NO, **WILL BE REACHED!**

WELL, HERE I AM...IN L.A. - HOLLYWOOD, JUST AROUND THE CORNER! AND MY FIRST NIGHT... SPENT IN A **FLOP-HOUSE**... BUT THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT!...

HIS DREAMS REACHED FAR BEYOND HIS MISERABLE, TICK-INFESTED COT...

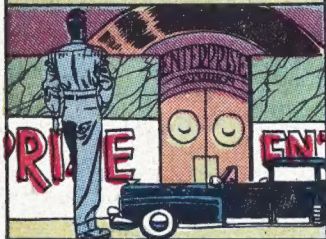
SOME DAY... SOME DAY...



JACK HELD TO HIS DREAMS WITH THE TENACITY OF A **BULLDOG!** PERHAPS HE **COULD CONQUER** THE AMAZING BAGHDAD OF THE WEST COAST... **PERHAPS...**



THE NEXT MORNING FOUND JACK DIAMOND BEFORE THE IMPOSING WALLS OF ENTERPRISE STUDIOS, INC. HE HAD MADE HIMSELF AS PRESENTABLE AS HIS LAST FEW CENTS WOULD ALLOW...



BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND... I'VE GOT TO GET A JOB!

SORRY, BUD, BUT...

HI, JIM - WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE TROUBLE? -



NO TROUBLE, MISS BARRIE - I WAS JUST TELLIN' THIS HERE GUY THAT NO JOBS WERE AVAILABLE...

AND I WAS JUST GOING!

WAIT...DON'T BE ANGRY - I HAPPEN TO KNOW WE DO NEED AN EXTRA SCENE-SHIFTER ON SET 5 -



YES, I GUESS I WAS INSTRUMENTAL, IF ONLY IN A SMALL PART, IN JACK DIAMOND'S CLIMB TO SUCCESS... THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE STEEL-GREY EYES THAT MADE ME WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT LAY BEHIND THEM...



I'M JUST AN UNDERSTUDY WHO ASPIRES TO GREATER HEIGHTS... BUT WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO IN HOLLYWOOD?

I WANT TO OWN THIS STUDIO!



I STARTED TO LAUGH - BUT THE LAUGHTER CAUGHT IN MY THROAT! IF ANYONE COULD ACCOMPLISH THIS FEAT - HE COULD!



ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, JACK PUT HIS PLANS INTO ACTION...

I'M ONLY A SCENE-SHIFTER HERE, SIR - BUT AS THE PRODUCER, I'M SURE YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN AN IDEA I HAVE WHICH WILL SAVE YOU SEVERAL THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS PER PICTURE! -

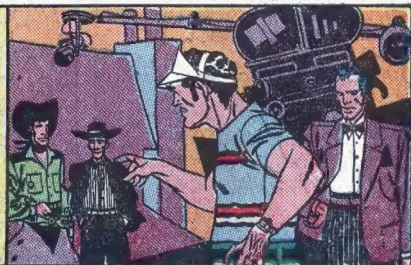
HMM... COME INTO MY OFFICE, JACK...



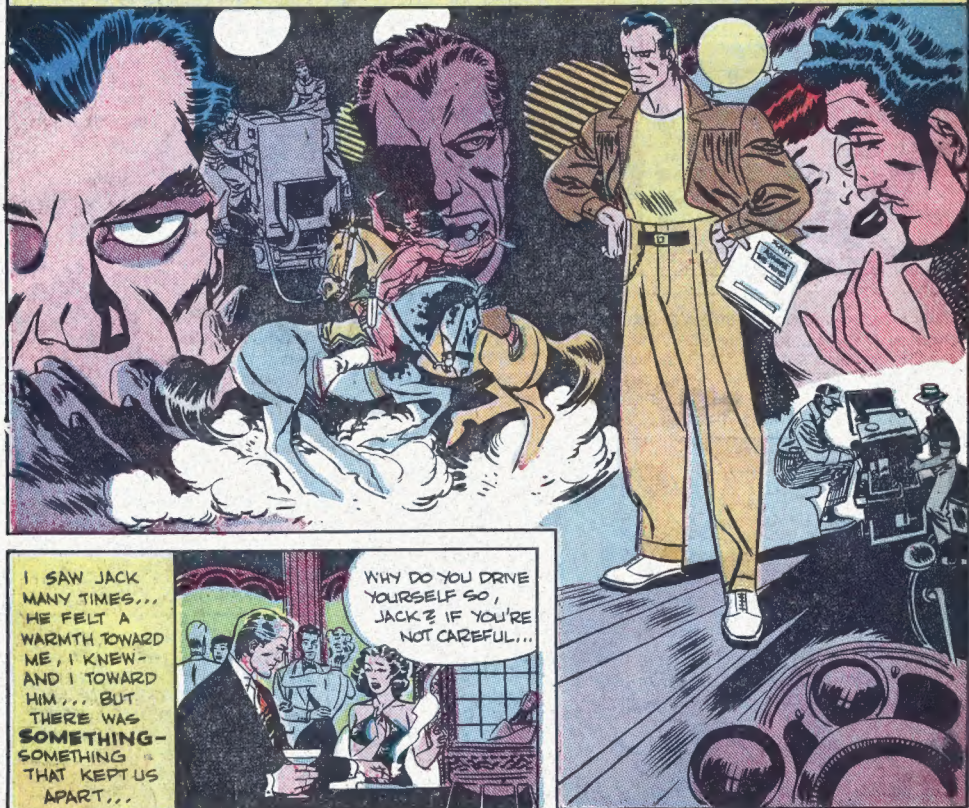
YOU MUST BE QUITE IMPORTANT HERE, MISS BARRIE?

OH, NO...

IN A SHORT TIME, JACK BECAME AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, AND THE PRODUCER'S RIGHT-HAND MAN...



JACK DIAMOND'S AMAZING RISE TO SUCCESS COULD ONLY HAVE HAPPENED IN THAT FABULOUS TOWN CALLED HOLLYWOOD! ONLY A FEW SHORT MONTHS AGO, JACK DIAMOND WAS A PENNILESS PAUPER, WHO BEGGED FOR A JOB AS A LOWLY SCENE-SHIFTER... NOW HE WAS HEAD DIRECTOR OF ENTERPRISE STUDIOS, INC., AND IF ANYONE STOOD IN HIS WAY- THEY DIDN'T STAND FOR **LONG...**!



I SAW JACK MANY TIMES... HE FELT A WARMTH TOWARD ME, I KNEW- AND I TOWARD HIM... BUT THERE WAS **SOMETHING-SOMETHING** THAT KEPT US APART...



WHY DO YOU DRIVE YOURSELF SO, JACK? IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL...

I CAN'T LET OFF NOW, JOAN... THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING **PUSHING ME...** I CAN OWN **HOLLYWOOD!** I CAN FEEL POWER FLOWING OUT OF MY FINGERTIPS! I'LL **BREAK** ANY FOOL WHO DARES THINK HE CAN BAR MY WAY TO MY ULTIMATE SUCCESS...!



YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO RECOGNIZED MY GREATNESS, WHEN THE REST WERE BLINDED BY MY RAGS AND UNSHAVEN FACE!



YOU'RE **WRONG**, JACK! I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D TRY TO GAIN THAT SUCCESS BY STEPPING ON EVERYONE ELSE'S **BACK!**...

JACK'S EYES HELD THE LOOK THAT LIGHTS THE EYES OF EVERY TYRANT... DEVOID OF KINDNESS OR FEELING! SUDDENLY, I FELT VERY ILL...

I WISH YOU'D TAKE ME HOME NOW, JACK...

WHA-? ALL RIGHT...! IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT!



THE NEXT DAY WAS A DAY I'LL NEVER FORGET... I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH MY ACTIONS THE NIGHT BEFORE AFFECTED JACK, UNTIL...

CUT! CUT! **CUT!** YOU CALL YOURSELF'S ACTORS? HAH! THAT'S A LAUGH! BUTCHERS! SHOEMAKERS!

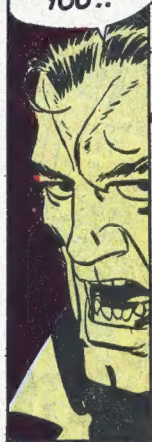
B-BUT MR. DIAMOND...

HIS FACE WAS A LIVID MASK OF FUMING FURY-- WITHOUT CAUSE OR REASON HE LASHED OUT AT EVERYONE ON THE SET...

I KNOW YOU CAN STAMMER! BUT YOU CAN'T READ A LINE STRAIGHT! HOW CAN I MAKE PICTURES THAT WILL SELL, WHEN I HAVE SUCH... SUCH IDIOTS TO WORK WITH??

GET YOUR STUPID FACES OFF THIS SET! ALL OF YOU!!

JOAN! MISS **BARRIE!** I WANT YOU TO STAY! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU...!



JOAN... YOU KNOW WHY I ACT THE WAY I DO... **NOTHING** MUST STOP ME...



YES - I KNOW! I KNOW YOU'RE A **CRUEL, SELFISH BEAST** WHO DOESN'T CARE WHOM HE HURTS - SO LONG AS HE GETS WHAT HE WANTS! **GOODBYE, MR. DIAMOND!** I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN!



I THOUGHT THAT YOU ABOVE ALL OTHERS... BUT I WAS **WRONG!** THE FASTER YOU GET OUT OF HERE - THE BETTER I'LL LIKE IT! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A **FEMALE JUDAS!**



I'LL SUCCEED IN SPITE OF EVERYONE... I'LL SHOW YOU **ALL!**



OH, JOAN - I NEED YOU - I NEED YOU!



I KNOW NOW THAT I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LEFT HIM... I GUESS THE EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED WERE INEVITABLE!



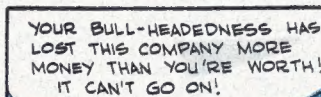
STARS CAN RISE HIGHER IN HOLLYWOOD THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD... BUT THE DESCENT OF A STAR CAN BE MUCH QUICKER AND MORE DISASTROUS! THE MAKING OF A SUCCESSFUL MOVIE IS NOT A ONE-MAN JOB! MANY COMPONENT PARTS MUST BE SYNCHRONIZED TO PERFORM AS ONE, SINGLE UNIT... AND IF THE MOVIE COMPANY IS NOT A WELL-OILED, SMOOTH-RUNNING MACHINE, THE PICTURES PRODUCED **CANNOT** BE SUCCESSFUL! THE PRODUCERS WERE BEGINNING TO REALIZE THAT JACK DIAMOND'S PICTURES WERE NOT PUTTING MONEY IN THEIR POCKETS...



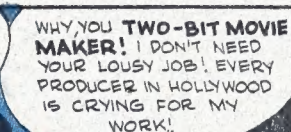
BUT JACK DIAMOND WAS HARDER TO CONTROL THAN A HERD OF WILD, STAMPEDING HORSES! IT WAS TO BE DONE **HIS** WAY, OR **NOT AT ALL!** IT WAS AS IF A THOUSAND DEVILS WERE JUMPING ABOUT HIM, EGGING HIM ON TO **DESTRUCTION!**



IT'S NO GOOD,
DIAMOND! IT'S
JUST NO
GOOD!



YOUR BULL-HEADEDNESS HAS
LOST THIS COMPANY MORE
MONEY THAN YOU'RE WORTH!
IT CAN'T GO ON!

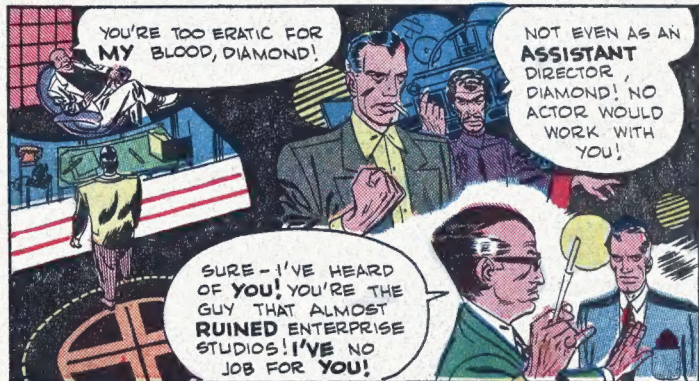


WHY, YOU **TWO-BIT MOVIE
MAKER!** I DON'T NEED
YOUR LOUSY JOB! EVERY
PRODUCER IN HOLLYWOOD
IS CRYING FOR MY
WORK!



YOU'LL BE ON YOUR
KNEES **BEGGING** ME
TO COME BACK-AND
I'LL **LAUGH** IN YOUR
FACE!

DON'T HOLD
YOUR BREATH
FOR IT,
DIAMOND!



YOU'RE TOO ERATIC FOR
MY BLOOD, DIAMOND!

NOT EVEN AS AN
**ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR**,
DIAMOND! NO
ACTOR WOULD
WORK WITH
YOU!

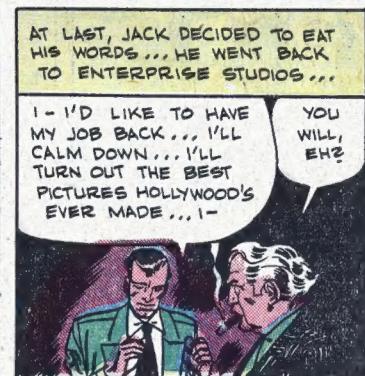
SURE - I'VE HEARD
OF YOU! YOU'RE THE
GUY THAT ALMOST
RUINED ENTERPRISE
STUDIOS! I'VE NO
JOB FOR YOU!



NO ONE CAN
FEEL COMPLETE
FAILURE SO
MUCH AS ONE
WHO HAS MADE
A SUCCESS -
AND THEN
LOST IT...



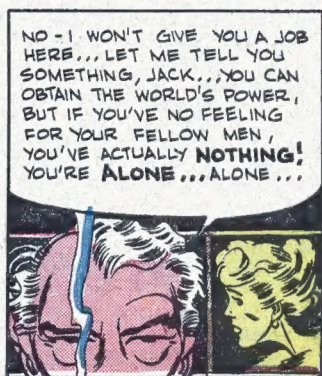
OH, LORD...WHY IS
THIS HAPPENING TO ME?
I HAD THE WORLD IN
THE PALM OF MY
HAND... AND I LET IT
SLIP THROUGH MY
FINGERS!



AT LAST, JACK DECIDED TO EAT
HIS WORDS... HE WENT BACK
TO ENTERPRISE STUDIOS...

I - I'D LIKE TO HAVE
MY JOB BACK... I'LL
CALM DOWN... I'LL
TURN OUT THE BEST
PICTURES HOLLYWOOD'S
EVER MADE... I -

YOU
WILL,
EH?



NO - I WON'T GIVE YOU A JOB
HERE... LET ME TELL YOU
SOMETHING, JACK... YOU CAN
OBTAIN THE WORLD'S POWER,
BUT IF YOU'VE NO FEELING
FOR YOUR FELLOW MEN,
YOU'VE ACTUALLY **NOTHING!**
YOU'RE **ALONE... ALONE...**

THE WORD
STOOD OUT
LIKE A
BEACON...
A SYMBOL
OF HIS
SELFISH
LUST FOR
SUCCESS...
THERE WAS
NOTHING
LEFT FOR
HIM...



WEEKS PASSED, AND
JACK HAD COMPLETELY
DISAPPEARED... I
SEARCHED FOR HIM
EVERYWHERE, UNTIL...

I DIDN'T KNOW
PLACES LIKE THIS
STILL EXISTED IN
LOS ANGELES-



EXCUSE ME... IS
JACK DIA - JACK!
OH, JACK... WHAT
HAVE YOU DONE
TO YOURSELF?



EH?-LEMMIE
SEE... SURE-
I KNEW A
GUY BY TH'
NAME OF
JACK D-
DIAMOND...
B-BUT HE
DIED... A
LONG TIME
AGO...



SLOWLY, THE
HAZE CLEARED
BEFORE HIS
EYES...

J-JOAN...
JOAN! NO-
IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S THIS
ROTTEN
WHISKEY...
Y-YOU CAN'T
BE R-REAL...



OH, JACK-IT'S
ALL MY FAULT!
I WALKED OUT
ON YOU WHEN
YOU NEEDED
ME MOST...
OH, JACK-I
LOVE YOU SO-

DON'T TALK,
JOAN-JUST-
JUST LET
ME HOLD
YOU...!



I'VE LEARNED, JOAN... NO
PERSON CAN EXPECT TO GO
ALONG HIS WAY, HURTING
OTHERS, WITHOUT HURTING
HIMSELF... SELFISH SUCCESS
IS ITS OWN PUNISHMENT...



THERE'S NOTHING TO STOP
US NOW, JACK! TOGETHER,
WE'LL STAND HOLLYWOOD ON
ITS EAR... AND EVERYONE
WORKING WITH US, WILL
GROW WITH US...! AND
THEIR SUCCESS WILL ADD
TO OURS...



TODAY, JACK IS ONE OF THE
MOST POPULAR DIRECTORS IN
HOLLYWOOD... ACTORS FIGHT TO
WORK IN PICTURES HE
DIRECTS! AND... OH - I THINK
MY HUSBAND'S CALLING ME!

YES, JACK?

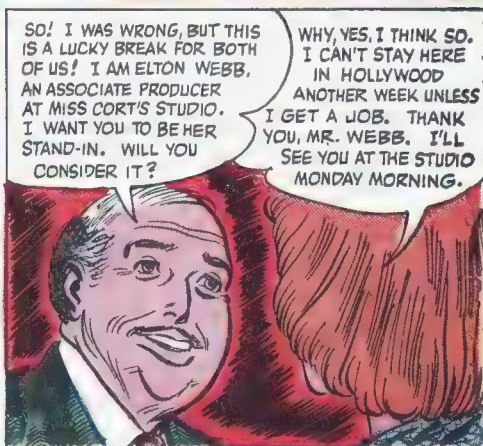
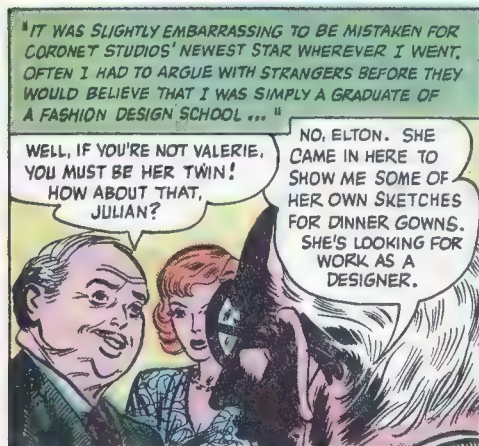
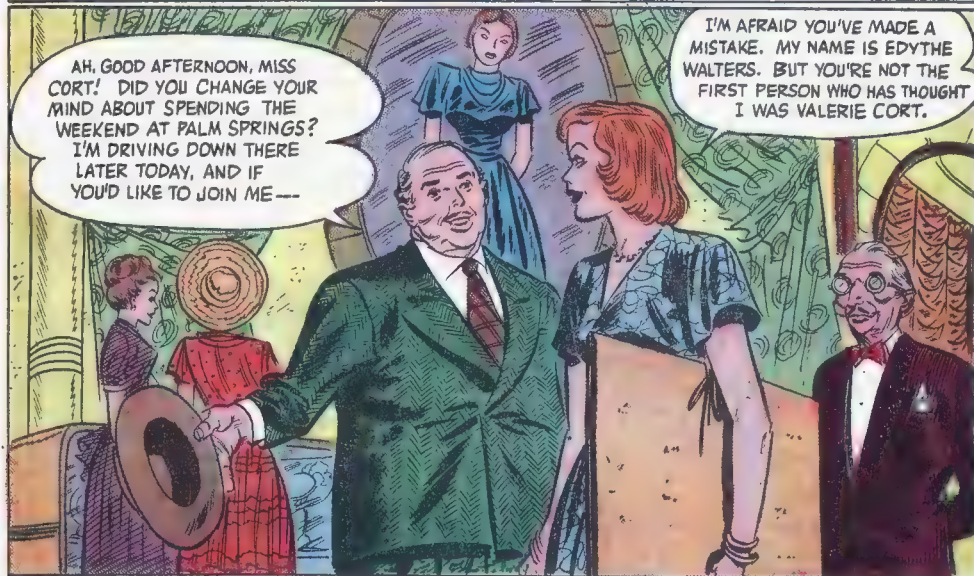
COME ON,
JOAN- THE
BEST DIRECTOR
IN HOLLYWOOD
WANTS HIS WIFE
TO ACCOMPANY
HIM HOME...



The End

I had studied dress designing, but when I came to Hollywood, I couldn't find work except as a seamstress. Then a case of mistaken identity swept me into a job as stand-in for a new star. The glamour and thrill of working in a movie studio went to my head and aroused in me the primitive emotions of jealousy and hatred. But my hopes for happiness faded because my scheming led me to the brink of disgrace! "

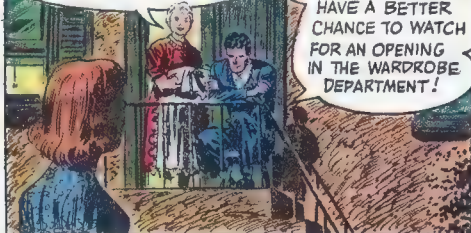
The SCANDAL I had to CONFESS



"FROM JULIAN'S I WENT BACK TO MY BOARDING HOUSE. MRS. STEFFAN, THE LANDLADY, AND BUDDY NORTON, AN UNEMPLOYED SCENIC DESIGNER, WERE EXCITED WHEN I BROKE THE GOOD NEWS..."

THAT'S A WONDERFUL BREAK FOR YOU, EDYTHE! WITH YOUR GOOD LOOKS YOU'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE RISING FROM STAND-IN TO STAR!

LUCKY GIRL, EDE. EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T GIVE A HANG ABOUT GOING DRAMATIC, YOU'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO WATCH FOR AN OPENING IN THE WARDROBE DEPARTMENT!



"BUDDY WAS A VERY PLEASANT AND PRACTICAL FELLOW. HE HAD A GREAT DEAL OF ARTISTIC TALENT BUT WAS MODEST ABOUT HIS ABILITY..."

FUNNY THING, EDE, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE I'VE KNOWN YOU A LONG TIME INSTEAD OF JUST THREE SHORT WEEKS. I GUESS THAT'S BECAUSE I'VE GROWN SO FOND OF YOU.



"I HAD NEVER GIVEN ANY SERIOUS THOUGHT TO ROMANCE -- PROBABLY BECAUSE I ASPIRED TO BECOME A FAMOUS DRESS DESIGNER. BUDDY WAS A LITTLE HURT WHEN I EXPLAINED THAT ALTHOUGH I LIKED HIM, I DIDN'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE..."

BUT THIS WON'T MEAN WE CAN'T GO AROUND TOGETHER, I HOPE.

OF COURSE NOT, BUDDY. BUT YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE ME OUT AGAIN -- UNTIL YOU HAVE A JOB.



WE HAVEN'T HAD A DATE IN A WEEK, AND THIS CALLS FOR A SMALL CELEBRATION. HOW ABOUT SUPPER AT MING FOO'S?

OH, I'D LOVE TO, BUDDY!



"AFTER SUPPER AT THE LITTLE CHINESE RESTAURANT, WE DROVE AROUND HOLLYWOOD AWHILE, THEN BUDDY STOPPED BY GRIFFITH PARK AND SURPRISED ME..."

NO SENSE HIDING IT ANY LONGER, EDE. I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU!

BUDDY! GOSH, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY -- EXCEPT I'M FLATTERED.



"BUDDY BECAME MORE CHEERFUL AFTERWARD, AND WHEN WE CAME HOME TO MRS. STEFFAN'S, I WAS QUITE WILLING FOR HIM TO GIVE ME A GOODNIGHT KISS. ON MY PART, IT WAS SIMPLY A TOKEN OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO STRENGTHEN HIS DETERMINATION TO FIND WORK..."



"THEN MONDAY CAME, AND AT CORONET STUDIOS MR. WEBB INTRODUCED ME TO VALERIE CORT, A VERY TALENTED BROADWAY ACTRESS WHO HAD FORSAKEN THE STAGE FOR HOLLYWOOD..."

SHE'S NOT FRIENDLY. I'M AFRAID SHE RESENTS THE FACT THAT WE LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE.

EDYTHE WALTERS -- THIS IS MISS CORT. SURPRISED, VALERIE?

WHY, YES -- A LITTLE. I SUPPOSE YOU MIGHT SAY THAT SHE DOES LOOK SOMEWHAT LIKE ME.

"BUT MISS CORT CONSENTED TO MY BEING HIRED AS HER STAND-IN, AND MR. WEBB GAVE ME A CONTRACT TO SIGN..."

NOW I'LL GIVE YOU A COPY, EDYTHE, AND I'D SUGGEST THAT YOU READ IT SOMETIME. THERE ARE A FEW "DO'S AND DON'TS" THAT YOU MUST FOLLOW TO KEEP IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE STUDIO.

YES -- AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. WEBB!

"ON THE FIRST DAY WE WENT INTO PRODUCTION ON 'COUNTERFEIT COURTSHIP,' VALERIE MADE IT VERY PLAIN TO EVERYONE THAT SHE DID NOT WANT TO BE MISTAKEN FOR HER STAND-IN... OR VICE VERSA..."

I AM THE STAR, NOT THE STAND-IN! PLEASE DO NOT CONFUSE ME WITH THAT GIRL AGAIN.

OKAY, MISS CORT, BUT I'VE GOT TWENTY-TWENTY VISION, AND YOU LOOK LIKE TWINS TO ME.

"EVEN AFTER MY SECOND WEEK, THE INSIGNIFICANT ROLE I PLAYED IN MOVIE MAKING WAS THRILLING TO ME..."

I SUPPOSE I'M JUST A DUMMY IN REALITY, BUT IT'S VERY EXCITING TO BE HERE AND WATCH THE OTHERS GO BEFORE THE CAMERAS!

"AND THE STUDIO ATMOSPHERE AFFECTED MY CHARACTER. I HAD LOST MY FORMER SHYNESS AND WAS QUITE BOLD AND OUTSPOKEN..."

YOU HAVE A VERY LOFTY OPINION OF YOURSELF, DON'T YOU, MISS CORT? YOU DON'T HAVE TO SNUB ME JUST BECAUSE I'M YOUR STAND-IN!

I'VE TAKEN TOO MUCH ABUSE FROM THAT CORT WOMAN, BUDDY. I'M GOING TO SCHEME UP A WAY TO DO HER SOME REAL DAMAGE.

WHY, EDE! YOU NEVER TALKED THAT WAY BEFORE. MISS CORT HASN'T BEEN IN HOLLYWOOD LONG, AND SHE'S PROBABLY JUST TRYING TO PUT UP A FRONT. IT'S SILLY FOR YOU TO BE JEALOUS OF A STAR. ACTING ISN'T YOUR AMBITION. LEAVE MISS CORT ALONE AND FORGET YOUR PETTY GRIEVANCES!

STUDIO 12

"BUDDY TRIED IN VAIN TO INFLUENCE MY DECISION. I WOULDN'T ADMIT THAT I WAS JEALOUS OF VALERIE, OR THAT I HAD MAGNIFIED HER OFF-HAND REMARKS INTO INSULTS. WHEN FRIDAY CAME, I WAS DETERMINED TO FIND A WAY TO HURT HER..."

SHE WANTS HER OWN WAY--EVEN WITH THE MAN IN HER LIFE. AND THERE'S AN ANGLE!

WHY, NO, WARD. I'M SPENDING THE WEEKEND WITH FRANK AND DONNA AT THEIR RANCH IN THE VALLEY.

COULDN'T I GO THERE WITH YOU? YOU'RE ALL THAT MATTERS WITH ME NOW.



"AFTER SUPPER AN IDEA STRUCK ME! I CALLED RICHARD STEVENS, WHOM THE NEWSPAPERS HAD REVEALED TO BE BITTER AGAINST VALERIE SINCE SHE HAD WALKED OUT ON HIM FOR WARD HUNTINGTON. STEVENS' POPULARITY AS A STAR HAD BEEN SLIPPING..."

...AND IT'S A WONDERFUL CHANCE FOR YOU TO MAKE THE HEADLINES AS WELL AS MAKING VALERIE VERY ANGRY. WILL YOU TAKE ME UP ON IT, MR. STEVENS?

IT'S A DEAL, MISS WALTERS. GIVE ME YOUR ADDRESS AND I'LL PICK YOU UP WITHIN AN HOUR.

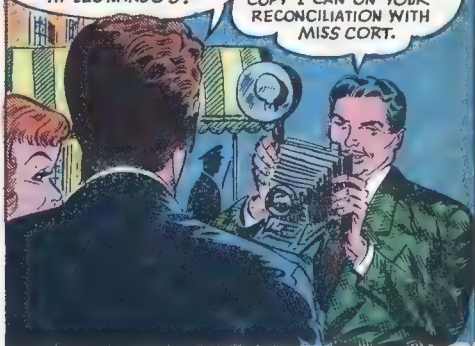
"WE MADE THE ROUNDS OF THE BEST NIGHT SPOTS, REALLY WHOOPING IT UP. PEOPLE EVERYWHERE MISTOOK ME FOR VALERIE AND THOUGHT SHE HAD RECONCILED WITH RICHARD STEVENS..."

WILL MISS CORT BE BURNING WHEN PEOPLE ASK HER ABOUT STEVENS ON MONDAY MORNING!



HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA? YOU SNAPPED PICTURES OF US A HALF HOUR AGO AT LEONARDO'S!

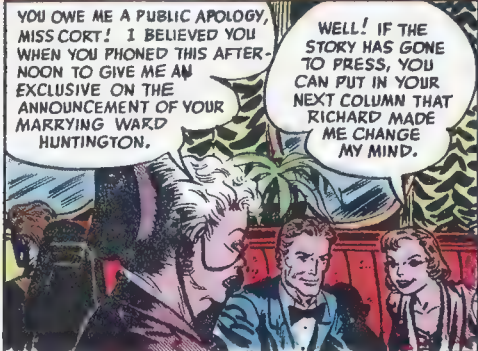
THIS ITEM IS FRONT-PAGE STUFF, MR. STEVENS. I WANT TO GET ALL THE COPY I CAN ON YOUR RECONCILIATION WITH MISS CORT.



"AT MIKELOFF'S WE RAN INTO LORETTA HOOKER, QUEEN OF THE MOVIE GOSSIP COLUMNISTS. NEITHER RICHARD NOR I BATTED AN EYELASH WHEN THE IRATE MISS HOOKER DROPPED A BOMBHELL..."

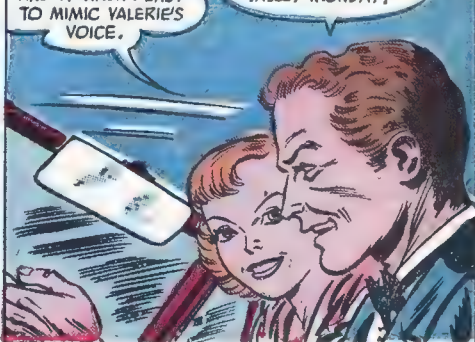
YOU OWE ME A PUBLIC APOLOGY, MISS CORT! I BELIEVED YOU WHEN YOU PHONED THIS AFTERNOON TO GIVE ME AN EXCLUSIVE ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF YOUR MARRYING WARD HUNTINGTON.

WELL! IF THE STORY HAS GONE TO PRESS, YOU CAN PUT IN YOUR NEXT COLUMN THAT RICHARD MADE ME CHANGE MY MIND.



IT'S A GOOD THING WE DECIDED TO GET AWAY. THEY WERE ASKING TOO MANY QUESTIONS -- AND IT WASN'T EASY TO MIMIC VALERIE'S VOICE.

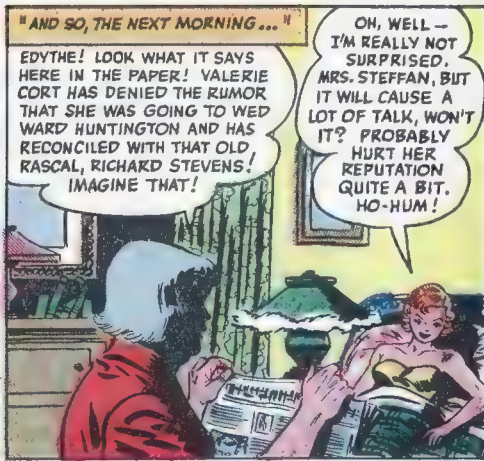
WE FOOLED 'EM COMPLETELY! HA! VALERIE WILL HAVE NINE FITS WHEN SHE RETURNS FROM THE VALLEY MONDAY!





BUT I'M GOING TO STAY AWAY FROM YOU, EDYTHE. YOU'RE AS BEAUTIFUL AS VAL. BUT YOU HAVE NONE OF HER FAULTS. AS SOON AS THE FIREWORKS FROM THE STUNT WE PULLED ARE OVER, I WANT TO MAKE A SERIOUS PLAY FOR YOUR HEART!

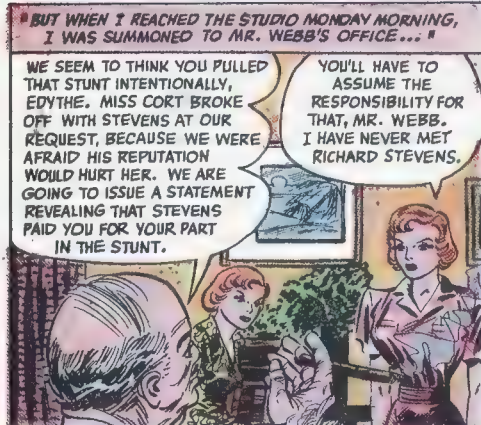
YOU WON'T HAVE MUCH TROUBLE, RICHARD. YOU'RE VERY CHARMING.



"AND SO, THE NEXT MORNING..."

EDYTHE! LOOK WHAT IT SAYS HERE IN THE PAPER! VALERIE CORT HAS DENIED THE RUMOR THAT SHE WAS GOING TO WED WARD HUNTINGTON AND HAS RECONCILED WITH THAT OLD RASCAL, RICHARD STEVENS! IMAGINE THAT!

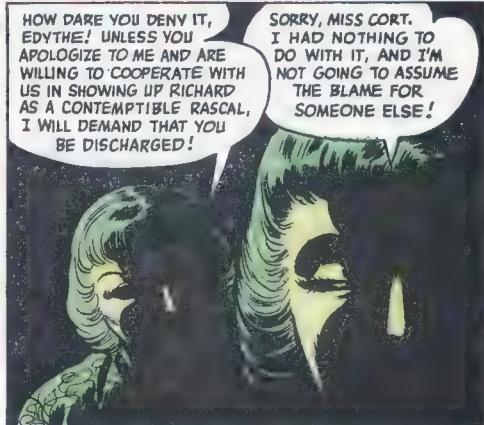
OH, WELL — I'M REALLY NOT SURPRISED, MRS. STEFFAN, BUT IT WILL CAUSE A LOT OF TALK, WON'T IT? PROBABLY HURT HER REPUTATION QUITE A BIT. HO-HUM!



BUT WHEN I REACHED THE STUDIO MONDAY MORNING, I WAS SUMMONED TO MR. WEBB'S OFFICE...

WE SEEM TO THINK YOU PULLED THAT STUNT INTENTIONALLY, EDYTHE. MISS CORT BROKE OFF WITH STEVENS AT OUR REQUEST, BECAUSE WE WERE AFRAID HIS REPUTATION WOULD HURT HER. WE ARE GOING TO ISSUE A STATEMENT REVEALING THAT STEVENS PAID YOU FOR YOUR PART IN THE STUNT.

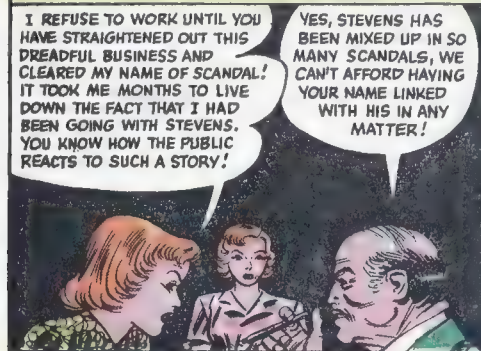
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT, MR. WEBB. I HAVE NEVER MET RICHARD STEVENS.



HOW DARE YOU DENY IT, EDYTHE! UNLESS YOU APOLOGIZE TO ME AND ARE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH US IN SHOWING UP RICHARD AS A CONTEMPTIBLE RASCAL, I WILL DEMAND THAT YOU BE DISCHARGED!

SORRY, MISS CORT. I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, AND I'M NOT GOING TO ASSUME THE BLAME FOR SOMEONE ELSE!

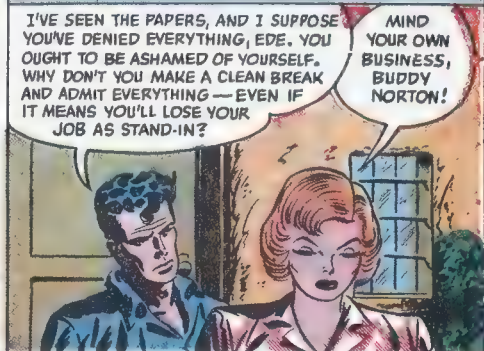
"THEY HAD NO WAY OF PROVING I WAS GUILTY. I DIDN'T CARE IF THE STUDIO DROPPED ME, BECAUSE I HAD HOPES THAT RICHARD STEVENS WOULD HELP ME BECOME ESTABLISHED AS A STYLIST WITH A SALON OF MY OWN..."



I REFUSE TO WORK UNTIL YOU HAVE STRAIGHTENED OUT THIS DREADFUL BUSINESS AND CLEARED MY NAME OF SCANDAL! IT TOOK ME MONTHS TO LIVE DOWN THE FACT THAT I HAD BEEN GOING WITH STEVENS. YOU KNOW HOW THE PUBLIC REACTS TO SUCH A STORY!

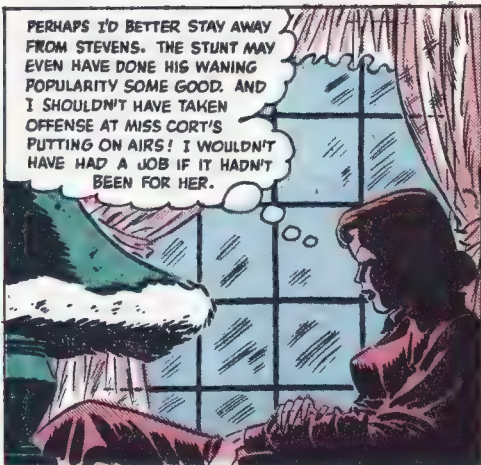
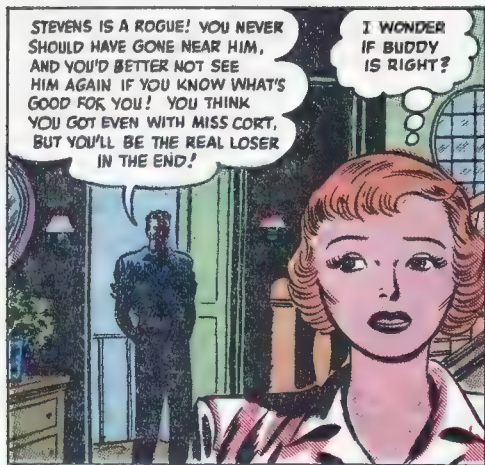
YES, STEVENS HAS BEEN MIXED UP IN SO MANY SCANDALS, WE CAN'T AFFORD HAVING YOUR NAME LINKED WITH HIS IN ANY MATTER!

"SINCE VALERIE HAD REFUSED TO WORK, I LEFT THE STUDIO AND DIDN'T STOP CHUCKLING OVER THE TROUBLE I HAD CAUSED HER UNTIL BUDDY CAUGHT ME OUTSIDE THE HOUSE..."

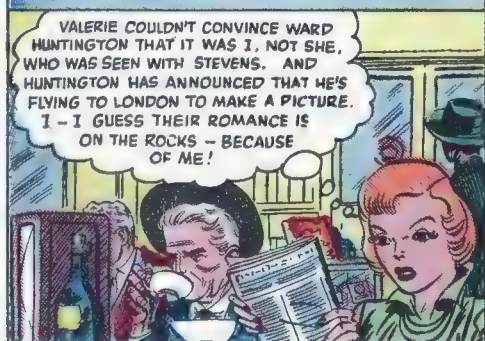


I'VE SEEN THE PAPERS, AND I SUPPOSE YOU'VE DENIED EVERYTHING, EDE. YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF. WHY DON'T YOU MAKE A CLEAN BREAK AND ADMIT EVERYTHING — EVEN IF IT MEANS YOU'LL LOSE YOUR JOB AS STAND-IN?

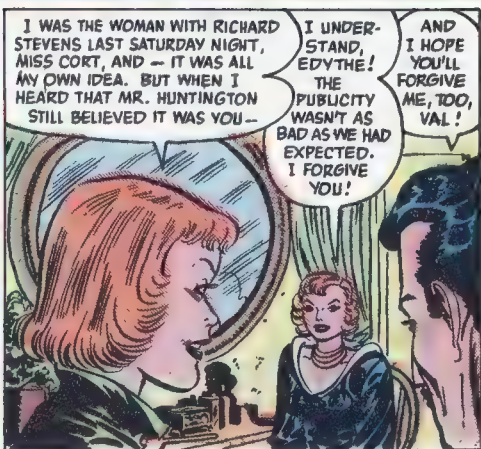
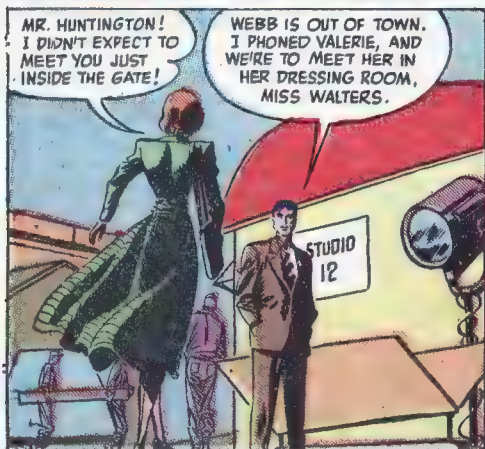
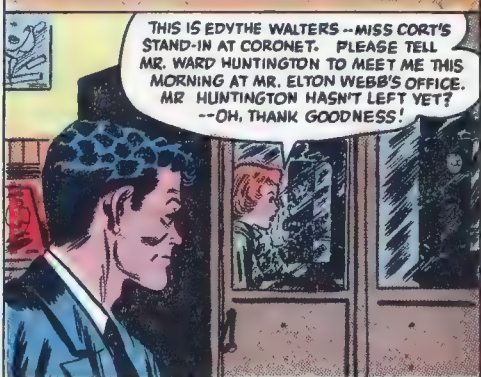
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, BUDDY NORTON!



"I DIDN'T OPEN THE TELEGRAMS OR ANSWER THE MANY TELEPHONE CALLS FROM CORONET STUDIOS FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS. BUT SOMETHING I READ IN THE PAPER THURSDAY MORNING HIT ME BETWEEN THE EYES..."



"SUDDENLY A STRANGE IMPULSE MADE ME PHONE WARD HUNTINGTON'S STUDIO TO LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR HIM..."



"AFTER I HAD CONFESSED TO MISS CORT, I DIDN'T CARE WHAT HAPPENED. I WAS SO GLAD IT WAS OVER AND THAT BOTH SHE AND MR. HUNTINGTON HAD ACCEPTED MY APOLOGY WITHOUT RANCOR ..."

I DON'T WANT TO WORK HERE AT THE STUDIO ANY LONGER, EVEN IF THEY'RE WILLING TO FORGET WHAT I DID. PERHAPS I'LL MAKE UP SOME NEW SKETCHES AND TRY THE DRESS SALONG AGAIN.

I'VE BEEN WAITING OUT HERE FOR YOU, EDE. DID EVERYTHING TURN OUT ALL RIGHT? I OVER-HEARD YOU PHONING FROM THE DRUG STORE, AND TAGGED ALONG BEHIND.

I'M DRIVING YOU BACK TO THE HOUSE. GO IN AND PICK UP YOUR SKETCHES AND WE'LL SHOW THEM TO JULIAN AGAIN. HE'S EXPANDING HIS SALON, AND MAYBE HE CAN USE YOU NOW!

ALL-RIGHT - BUT I HOPE I WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED AGAIN.

HOW DID YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW ABOUT JULIAN'S, BUDDY? I THOUGHT YOU HAD GONE BACK TO WORK DESIGNING STAGE SETTINGS.

NO, EDE. I'M IN ANOTHER LINE NOW. THAT'S HOW I HAPPENED TO MEET JULIAN.

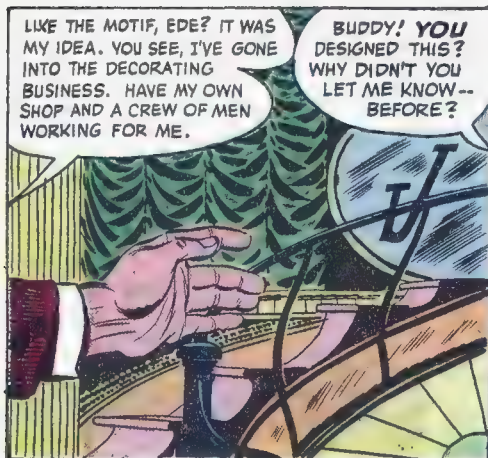
YOU REMEMBER EDYTHE WALTERS, JULIAN? I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE HER NOW THAT YOU'VE BRANCHED INTO SPORTSWEAR.

OH, YES ... HOW ARE YOU, MISS WALTERS?... ER, WELL, IF YOU HAVE ANY NEW SKETCHES...

OH, THE SAME ONES YOU SHOWED ME BEFORE. INTERIOR DECORATING? YOU HAVE A FINE SENSE OF DESIGN, EDYTHE. WHY DON'T YOU TAKE UP DECORATING?

WHAT? WHY, I'D NEVER THINK OF IT!

HA, HA, HA! THAT'S WHAT I USED TO SAY!



LIKE THE MOTIF, EDE? IT WAS MY IDEA. YOU SEE, I'VE GONE INTO THE DECORATING BUSINESS. HAVE MY OWN SHOP AND A CREW OF MEN WORKING FOR ME.

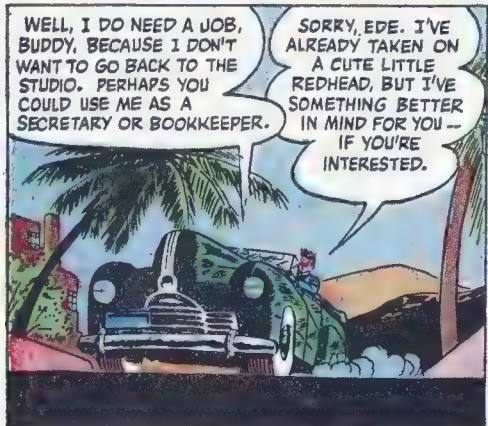
BUDDY! YOU DESIGNED THIS? WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME KNOW-- BEFORE?



MR. NORTON COULD USE A GIRL WITH YOUR TALENTS, MISS WALTERS.

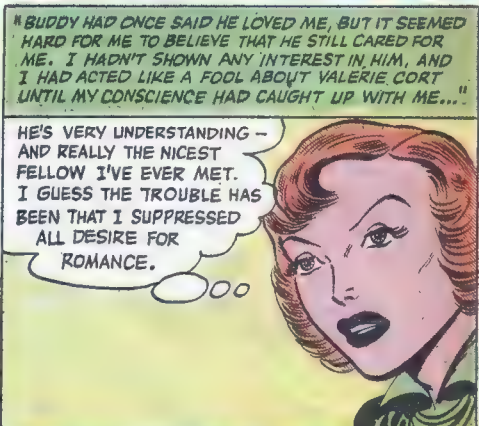
WELL, I'M SO SURPRISED, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY BUT THANKS FOR LOOKING AT MY SKETCHES AGAIN.

MY MEN WILL BE COMING ON THE JOB SOON. BUT COME ALONG AND SEE MY SHOP, EDE.



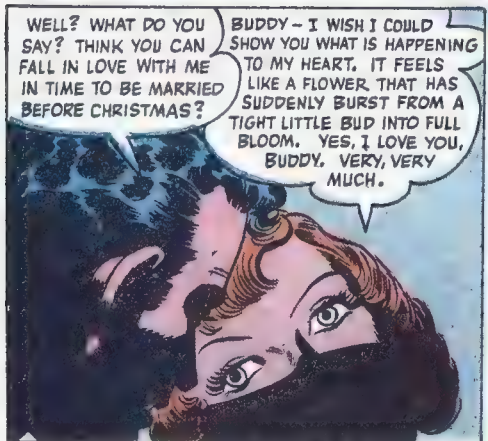
WELL, I DO NEED A JOB, BUDDY, BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO THE STUDIO. PERHAPS YOU COULD USE ME AS A SECRETARY OR BOOKKEEPER.

SORRY, EDE. I'VE ALREADY TAKEN ON A CUTE LITTLE REDHEAD, BUT I'VE SOMETHING BETTER IN MIND FOR YOU -- IF YOU'RE INTERESTED.



"BUDDY HAD ONCE SAID HE LOVED ME, BUT IT SEEMED HARD FOR ME TO BELIEVE THAT HE STILL CARED FOR ME. I HADN'T SHOWN ANY INTEREST IN HIM, AND I HAD ACTED LIKE A FOOL ABOUT VALERIE CORT UNTIL MY CONSCIENCE HAD CAUGHT UP WITH ME..."

HE'S VERY UNDERSTANDING -- AND REALLY THE NICEST FELLOW I'VE EVER MET. I GUESS THE TROUBLE HAS BEEN THAT I SUPPRESSED ALL DESIRE FOR ROMANCE.



WELL? WHAT DO YOU SAY? THINK YOU CAN FALL IN LOVE WITH ME IN TIME TO BE MARRIED BEFORE CHRISTMAS?

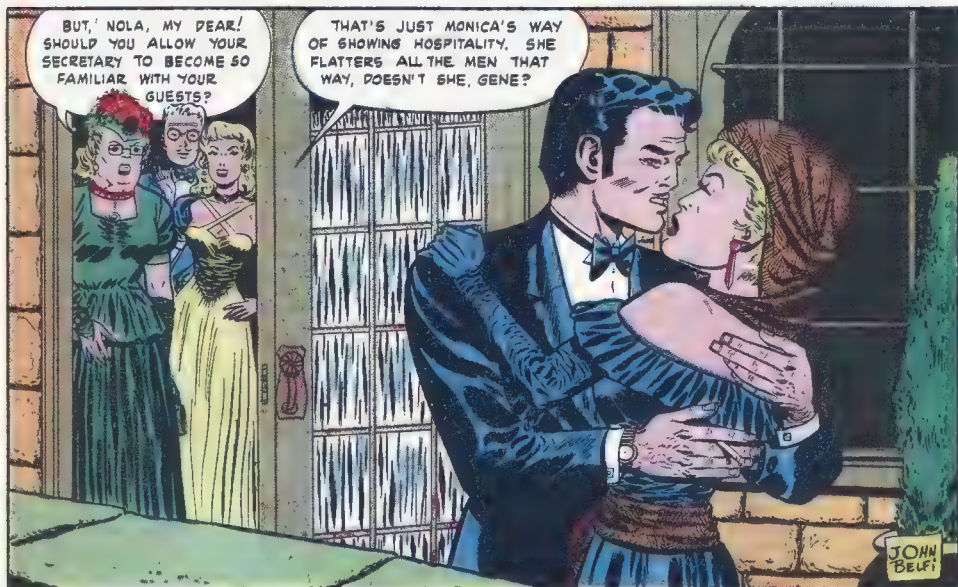
BUDDY -- I WISH I COULD SHOW YOU WHAT IS HAPPENING TO MY HEART. IT FEELS LIKE A FLOWER THAT HAS SUDDENLY BURST FROM A TIGHT LITTLE BUD INTO FULL BLOOM. YES, I LOVE YOU, BUDDY. VERY, VERY MUCH.



"IT SEEMED TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE -- BUT THEN BUDDY WAS THAT KIND OF FELLOW. IN HIS QUIET, MODEST WAY, HE WENT OUT TO GET WHAT HE WANTED IN THE WORLD -- AND I HAVE BEEN HAPPY EVER SINCE THAT I WAS THE GIRL OF HIS CHOICE."

As social secretary of one of Hollywood's most famous couples, I held an enviable position. But my heart hid a bitter secret that I fought against admitting was the truth. In a frantic effort to cover up my grievance, I kissed too freely and lied too frequently about the kisses others had stolen. Then someone discovered my secret and declared that ...

My Lips had to be Tamed!



"DIRECTOR GENE KIRKWOOD AND HIS WIFE, SCREEN STAR NOLA HAZELTON, WERE ALWAYS HOLDING OPEN HOUSE AT THEIR BEL AIR HOME. THEIR GUEST LIST INCLUDED THE TOP NAMES IN HOLLYWOOD, AND I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF EVERY ROMANTIC OPPORTUNITY..."

IT'S A GOOD THING I DON'T TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY, MONICA... YOU COULD SO EASILY BREAK MY HEART. HOW MANY HEARTS HAVE YOU BROKEN?

NONE BUT MY OWN, WILSON. MEN LIKE YOU--STARS AND PRODUCERS--PREFER TO KISS AND RUN. WHAT CHANCE HAS A LITTLE NOBODY LIKE ME?

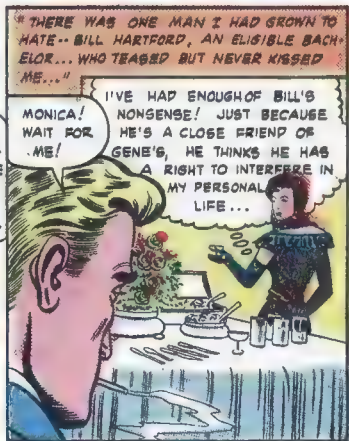
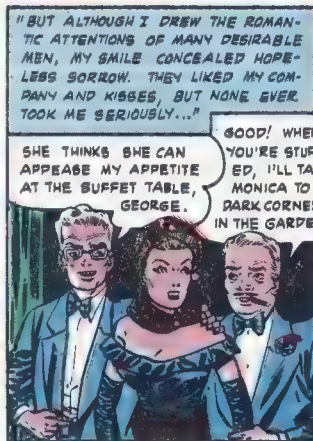
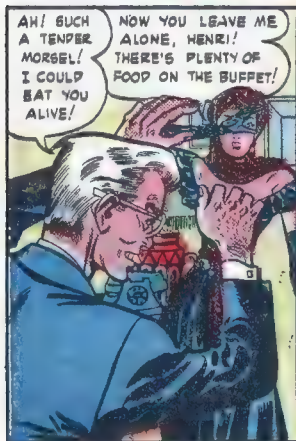
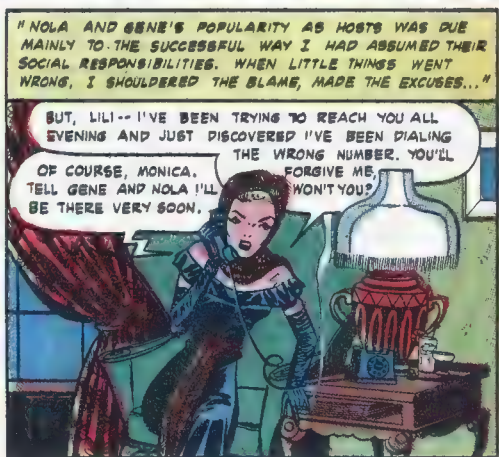
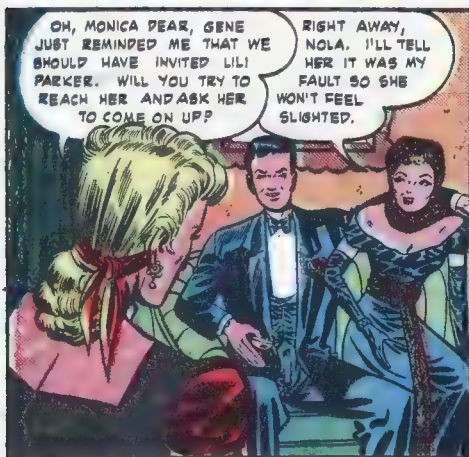
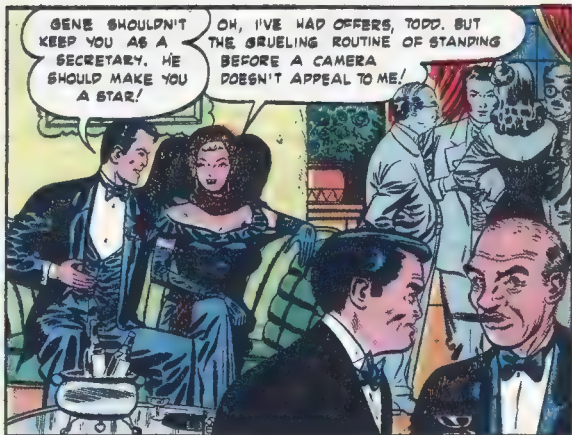


"THAT WAS MY SECRET SORROW. NONE OF THE MEN I ADMIRER EVER CAME CLOSE TO FALLING IN LOVE WITH ME. BUT IN SPITE OF THAT, I WAS VERY POPULAR WITH THEM..."

MONICA, DARLING! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU. WILSON HASN'T TAKEN AN OPTION ON YOU, HAS HE?

WE COULD... BUT JUST LIKE YOU, TOPP, HE WON'T! OR HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND?





"ESCAPING FROM BILL LED TO A DISILLUSIONING DISCOVERY... ADDING ANOTHER SCAR TO MY TORTURED HEART..."

WILSON! HOW CAN HE SEE ANYTHING DESIRABLE IN HELENA REED? HE SHOULD HAVE SEEN HER BEFORE A DENTIST AND A PLASTIC SURGEON GAVE HER THAT NEW LOOK!



"FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I'D BEEN WITH NOLA AND GENE, I WAS GLAD THAT NIGHT WHEN THE PARTY WAS OVER, BEFORE THE GUESTS HAD LEFT, EVERY MAN, EXCEPT BILL, WAS PLAYING FAVORITE WITH ONE PARTICULAR WOMAN..."

IT'S ALWAYS THIS WAY... BEFORE THE PARTY IS OVER, I'M LEFT ALL ALONE. NOLA SAYS IT'S BECAUSE I LIVE HERE AND MEN DON'T HAVE TO SEE ME HOME. BUT I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT THE REASON THEY DESERT ME TOWARD THE END...



GOOD MORNING! NO PERSONAL LETTERS IN THE MAIL. I'LL CHECK THROUGH THE BILLS AFTER I CALL FREDERIC'S FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT, NOLA.



"LIKE MANY WOMEN, NOLA HAD A WEAKNESS FOR GOSSIP TO FILL HER INSATIABLE DESIRE FOR PETTY SCANDAL. I DELIGHTED HER BY MAKING UP STORIES ABOUT PEOPLE..."

WERE ANY HUSBANDS CAUGHT KISSING OTHER MEN'S WIVES LAST NIGHT? COME, COME, MONICA-- I KNOW YOU NEVER MISS ANYTHING!

WHY, YES. RITA FOREST WOULDN'T LET JOHN OUT OF HER SIGHT AFTER SHE CAUGHT HIM FIXING THE BROKEN BUCKLE ON PAM BURTON'S SHOE. PAM'S SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ANKLES IN HOLLYWOOD, YOU KNOW.



AND I PRACTICALLY HAD TO CHASE JIM RANDALL AND ZIZI DORE OUT OF THE SAME ROOM THEY WERE THERE ALONE IN THE PARK.

LUCKY FOR ZIZI THAT HER HUSBAND'S IN PARIS. HE'S TERRIBLY JEALOUS OF HER.



"WHEN NOLA SPREAD THE FALSE RUMORS I HAD TOLD HER, PEOPLE ACTUALLY BELIEVED HER! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT SOONER OR LATER, SOMEONE WOULD TRACE THE GOSSIP BACK TO ME, ITS SOURCE..."

AND DID YOU HEAR ABOUT JEAN? WELL, NOW, SHE'S THE LAST ONE YOU'D THINK WOULD...

OH, NO! I'VE SUSPECTED THAT JEAN'S REAL HEART INTEREST WASN'T WHAT EVERYONE THOUGHT! GO ON, JEAN.

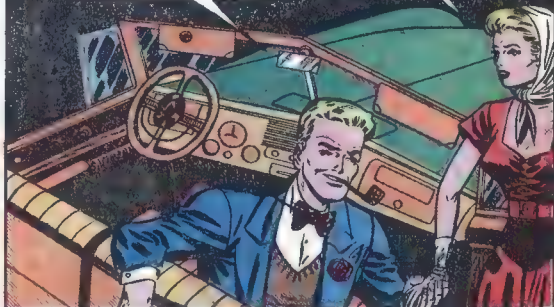


"I MIGHT HAVE GUESSED WHO WOULD BE THE FIRST TO ACCUSE ME, BUT ZIZI CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD AND WITHOUT A READY DENIAL..."



WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT YOU!

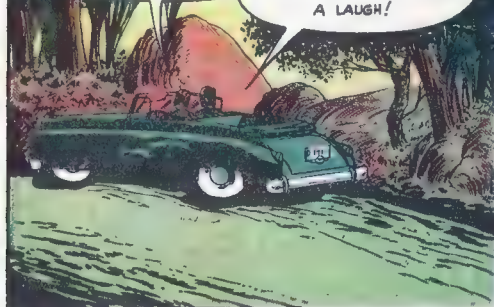
SO THEY'RE FINALLY WISING UP TO YOU! YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN BY EXPERIENCE, MONICA. COME ALONG... DON'T WAIT FOR NOLA. I'LL TAKE YOU HOME.



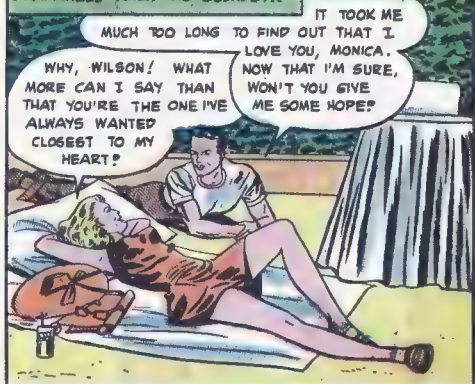
I WISH YOU'D GO AND BOTHER SOMEONE ELSE, BILL HARTFORD!

HOW MANY TWO-MINUTE FLINGS AT ROMANCE DID YOU HAVE AT THE LAST PARTY? OR HAVE YOU FINALLY SNARED SOME HEAVENLY MALE?

IF YOU WEREN'T GENE'S BEST FRIEND, I'D FIX YOU... BUT GOOD! YOU MISTAKE MY FRIENDLINESS WITH OTHER MEN FOR A LONGING FOR AFFECTION. THAT'S A LAUGH!



"BUT WHAT I TOLD BILL WAS A LIE. FOR WHEN WILSON BEGAN TO TAKE ME SERIOUSLY THE FOLLOWING WEEK, MY HAPPINESS KNEW NO BOUNDS..."



IT TOOK ME MUCH TOO LONG TO FIND OUT THAT I LOVE YOU, MONICA. NOW THAT I'M SURE, WON'T YOU GIVE ME SOME HOPE?

WHY, WILSON! WHAT MORE CAN I SAY THAN THAT YOU'RE THE ONE I'VE ALWAYS WANTED CLOSEST TO MY HEART?

WON'T YOU GIVE ME SOME HOPE?

"WILSON MADE UP FOR HIS PREVIOUS RELUCTANCE TO FALL FOR ME BY TAKING UP ALL MY TIME. WHEN I NO LONGER HAD ANY DOUBTS ABOUT HIS INTENTIONS, I LET HIM INTO MY CONFIDENCE..."



PROMISE ME, DARLING, THAT YOU'LL STOP MAKING UP TALES ABOUT PEOPLE TO NOLA. YOU'VE DONE THAT RIGHT ALONG, HAVEN'T YOU?

WHY, YES, WILSON. I'M ASHAMED TO ADMIT THAT I HAVE, BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?

"AT THAT, WILSON'S PRETENSE OF LOVING ME VANISHED AND HE BECAME A SNARLING ACCUSER. WHAT A HORRIBLE MISTAKE I HAD MADE BY TRUSTING HIM..."

SO! I'VE FOUND OUT THE TRUTH AT LAST! EVERYONE IS GOING TO KNOW ABOUT THIS! YES, EVERYONE! YOU'VE CAUSED ENOUGH TROUBLE AND UNJUSTIFIED SCANDAL!

WILSON! YOU CAN'T MEAN WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!





PLEASE, WILSON! PLEASE DON'T TELL EVERYONE! I'LL GO TO ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE SPREAD GOSPEL ABOUT...OR WRITE EACH ONE A LETTER ADMITTING MY FALSEHOODS!

I'LL GIVE YOU JUST THREE DAYS TO WRITE THOSE LETTERS. THEN GIVE THEM TO ME TO MAIL...

"I HAD NEVER BEEN IN SUCH AN AWFUL JAM! WORST OF ALL, I COULDN'T THINK OF A SINGLE WAY TO SATISFY WILSON'S CRUEL DEMAND. HOW COULD I WRITE THOSE LETTERS?"

I MIGHT AS WELL SAVE MYSELF THE TROUBLE AND SIMPLY TELL GENE AND NOLA THAT I'M THROUGH! I WOULD BE THE WORST KIND OF SOCIAL LIABILITY TO THEM IF EVERYONE LEARNS THE TRUTH!

"BUT LATER THAT DAY I HIT UPON THE CRAZY IDEA OF BEING NICE TO THE MAN I HAD ALWAYS HATED, FOR PERHAPS FROM HIM I COULD WHEEDLE OUT SOME SCANDAL IN WILSON'S LIFE THAT I COULD USE TO BLOCK HIS THREAT..."

AFTERNOON, BILL! GENE AND NOLA OUT? WELL, MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME!

OH, GOOD HAVE BEEN STUNG BY A HONEYBEE WHEN YOU WERE OUT RIDING WITH WILSON. I NEVER KNEW YOU TO BE SO SWEET, MONICA!

HEY! YOU MUST HAVE BEEN STUNG BY A HONEYBEE WHEN YOU WERE OUT RIDING WITH WILSON. I NEVER KNEW YOU TO BE SO SWEET, MONICA!

SO YOU SAW ME WITH WILSON! TELL ME, DO YOU THINK A GIRL CAN TRUST HIM? HAS HE EVER DONE ANYTHING HE DOESN'T TALK ABOUT? WHAT ABOUT HIS BACKGROUND?

WHY WORRY ABOUT HIM? YOU CAN'T FALL FOR WILSON WHILE I'M AROUND. YOU WANT ME, DON'T YOU, MONICA?

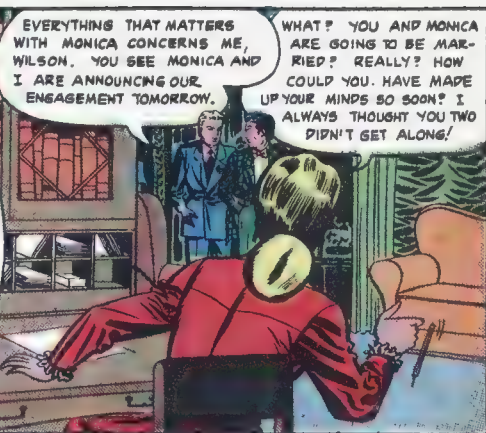
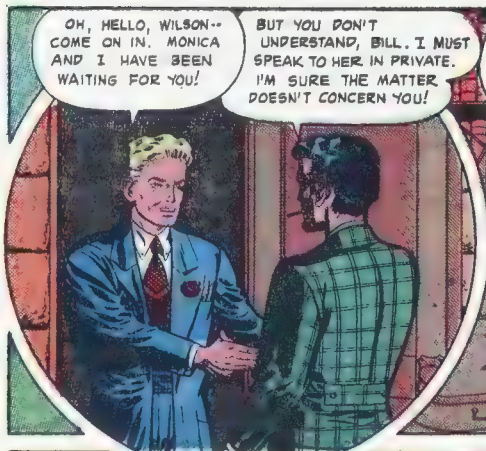
"WHEN TWO DAYS HAD PASSED AND I HAD DONE NOTHING ABOUT THE LETTERS I WAS SUPPOSED TO WRITE, A SURPRISINGLY NEW PROBLEM AROSE. BILL WAS NO LONGER TEASING ME. HE HAD BECOME LOVINGLY TENDER..."

I HATE TO STEAL YOU AWAY FROM GENE AND NOLA, DEAREST, BUT THEY SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THE RISK WHEN THEY HIRED SUCH A LOVELY GIRL!

"AND BEFORE WILSON CAME TO THE HOUSE THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON, BILL HAD CAPTURED MY HEART LIKE I'D NEVER BELIEVED IT POSSIBLE FOR ANY MAN TO DO. BUT I KNEW I COULDN'T HOLD BILL AFTER HE LEARNED THE TRUTH FROM WILSON..."

THE DOORBELL. WON'T YOU PLEASE SEE WHO IT IS, BILL?

SURE, DARLING! NOT EXPECTING ANYONE SPECIAL, I HOPE.



"I WAS SO CONFUSED BY THE SUDDENESS OF BILL'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT I ACCEPTED IT IN GOOD FAITH AND PRETENDED BEFORE WILSON THAT EVERYTHING WAS JUST AS BILL HAD SAID..."

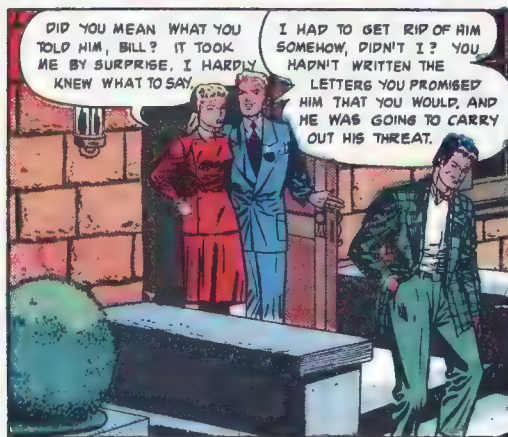
WELL! MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS, MONICA! YOU HAVE CAUGHT ONE OF HOLLYWOOD'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELORS AND A FINE FELLOW!

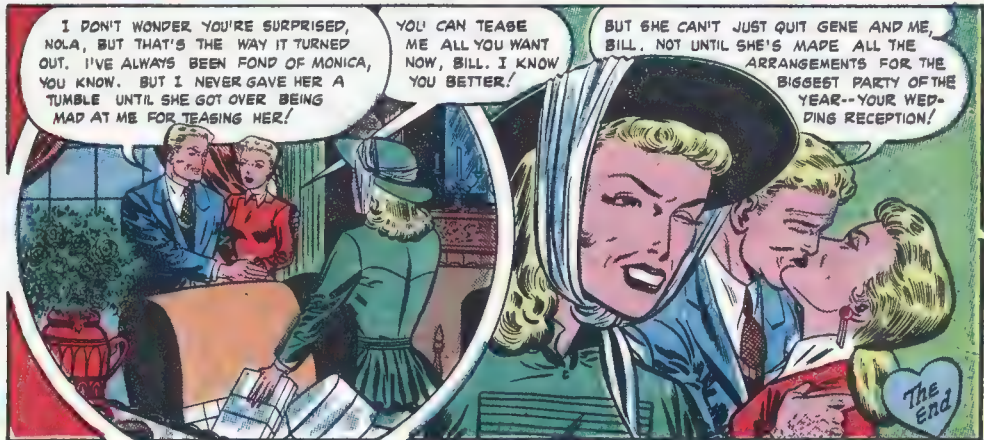
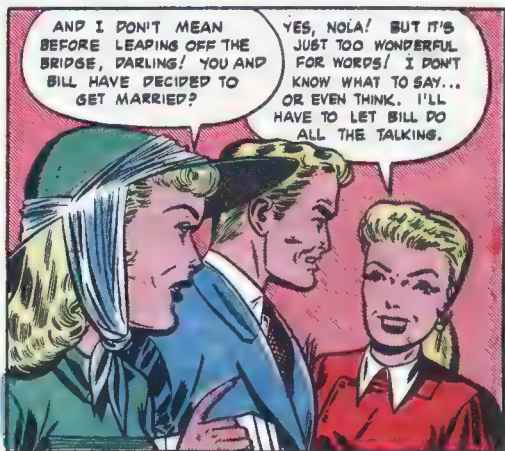
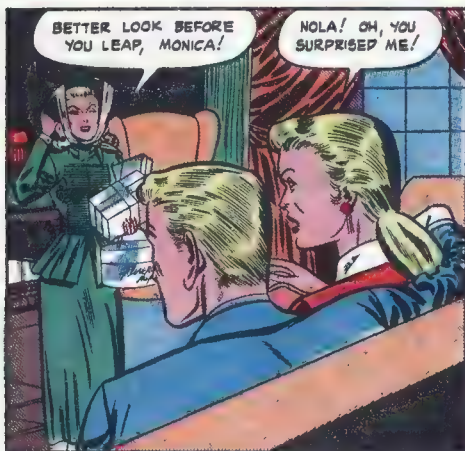
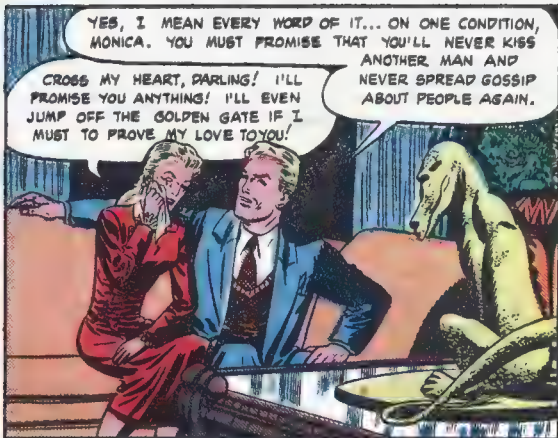
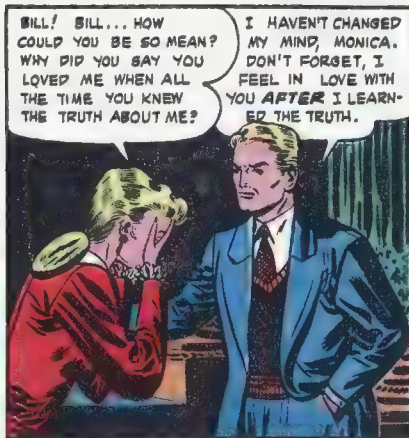
THANK YOU, WILSON.



I GUESS WE CAN FORGET ABOUT THAT OTHER MATTER. I WOULDN'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT HURT BILL.

THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, WILSON. I'LL GIVE YOU A RING LATER TODAY.





CAREER MAD

I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT THE DIRECTOR THINKS OF YOU AS AN ACTRESS, HONEY! JUST STRING ALONG WITH ME AND YOUR NAME WILL BE IN LIGHTS!



I fought the man who loved me to keep him from standing in the way of my becoming a star. When my ambitions headed for failure, I was tempted to save myself from failure by reckless love. I laughed at the warnings of wiser girls until the night I found out that shame goes hand in hand with fame...

OH, BARRY, I'M SO UPSET! VENTURA STUDIOS REFUSED TO RAISE MY SALARY IN MY NEW CONTRACT!

WONDERFUL! YOU CAN TURN THEM DOWN, AND WE'LL GET MARRIED RIGHT AWAY!



NO, BARRY, I'M NOT GIVING UP MY CAREER-- FOR LOVE OR ANY OTHER REASON. I'LL GET A BREAK BEFORE THE YEAR IS UP.

THINK TWICE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE, BABY. IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, WE CAN BE MARRIED AND YOU'LL COME ALONG ON MY EXPEDITION THROUGH BRAZIL.



"WE HAD MET IN COLLEGE, WHERE BARRY HAD MAJORED IN ZOOLOGY. BARRY HAD ALSO WON A FELLOWSHIP, AND NOW THE CARTER FOUNDATION HAD PUT THE MONEY TO PAY FOR AN EXPEDITION THROUGH THE BRAZILIAN JUNGLES..."

CAN'T YOU SEE, BARRY? I'D BE FOOLISH TO GIVE UP MY CAREER FOR MARRIAGE-- AND MOSQUITOS!

I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU DON'T LOVE ME, BABY.



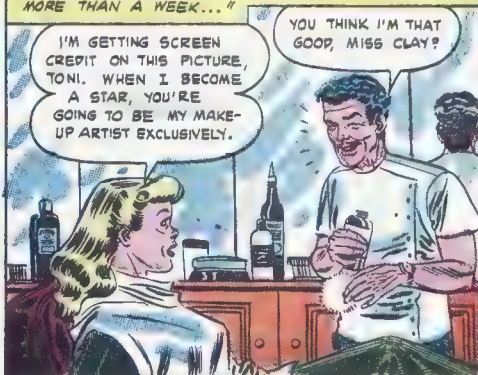
"I SIGNED THE CONTRACT THE NEXT DAY, AND WAS CAST FOR A BIT PART IN A NEW PRODUCTION CALLED 'PERILOUS PARADISE' IN WHICH THREE BIG FEMINE STARS HAD BEEN GIVEN LEADING ROLES..."



LEAVE IT TO ME, FLO! I'M NOT JUST OUT FOR MY TEN PERCENT. I'M TRYING TO BUILD YOU UP, TO MAKE YOU A STAR SOME DAY!

YES, MILTON... YES, ONE AGENT IN A MILLION--EXCEPT WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING ME MORE MONEY.

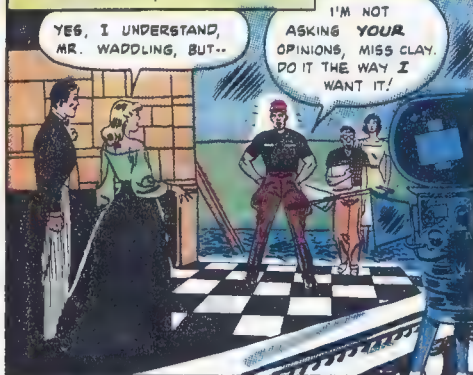
"SHOOTING BEGAN THE FOLLOWING WEEK, AND I HAD TO GO BEFORE THE CAMERAS ALTHOUGH THE SCENES IN WHICH I HAD A PART WOULDN'T COME ALONG FOR MORE THAN A WEEK..."



I'M GETTING SCREEN CREDIT ON THIS PICTURE, TONI. WHEN I BECOME A STAR, YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY MAKE-UP ARTIST EXCLUSIVELY.

YOU THINK I'M THAT GOOD, MISS CLAY?

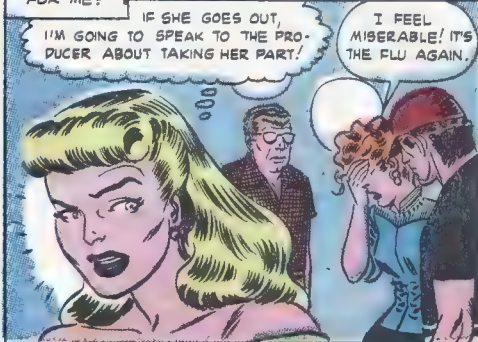
"FROM THE START, I DIDN'T GET ALONG WELL WITH HUGO WADDLING, THE DIRECTOR..."



YES, I UNDERSTAND, MR. WADDLING, BUT--

I'M NOT ASKING YOUR OPINIONS, MISS CLAY. DO IT THE WAY I WANT IT!

"VERY LITTLE FOOTAGE HAD BEEN SHOT WHEN SIGRID DAHLQUIST, ONE OF THE STARS, WAS SUDDENLY TAKEN ILL. WAS HER BAD LUCK GOING TO MEAN A BREAK FOR ME?"



IF SHE GOES OUT, I'M GOING TO SPEAK TO THE PRODUCER ABOUT TAKING HER PART!

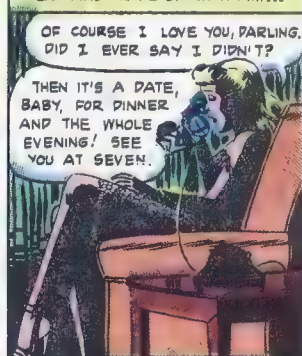
I FEEL MISERABLE! IT'S THE FLU AGAIN.

BUT, MR. HASKINS-- IF MISS DAHLQUIST IS OUT FOR TWO WEEKS...



YOU-- TAKE HER SPOT? INCONCEIVABLE! YOU'RE JUST A CUTE KID-- BUT YOU DON'T HAVE ONE IOTA OF ACTING ABILITY!

"WEAKENED TEMPORARILY BY A DISCOURAGING DAY, I PHONED BARRY WHEN I GOT TO MY APARTMENT AND MADE UP WITH HIM..."



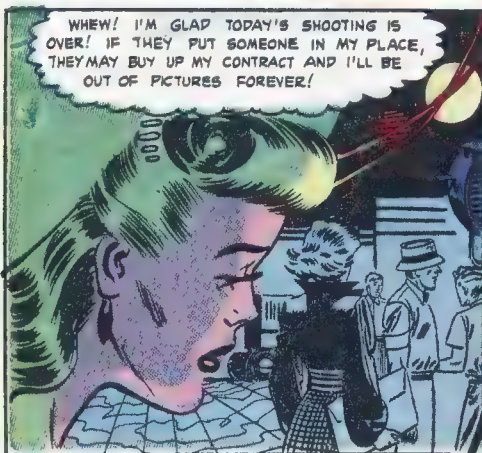
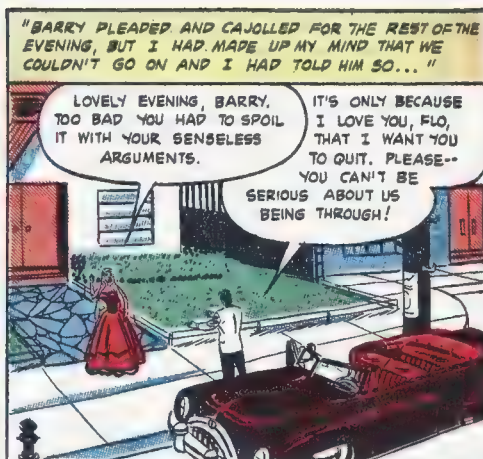
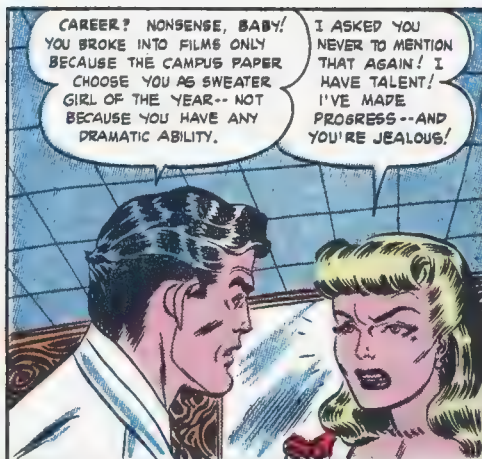
OF COURSE I LOVE YOU, DARLING. DID I EVER SAY I DIDN'T?

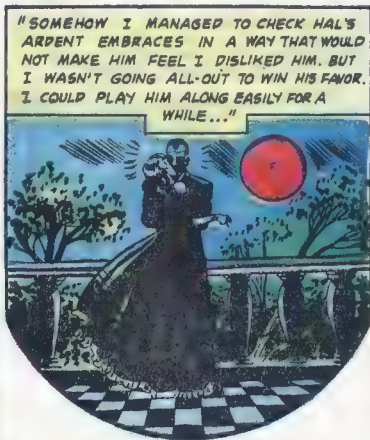
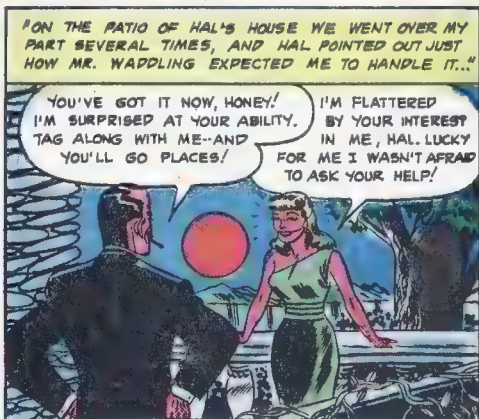
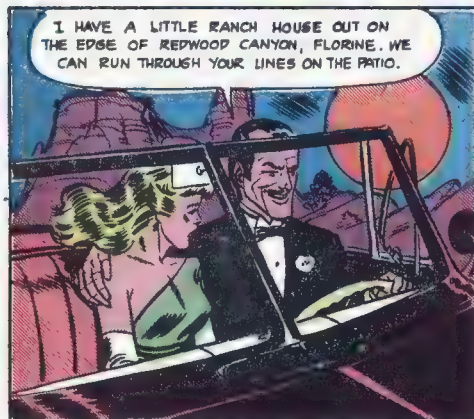
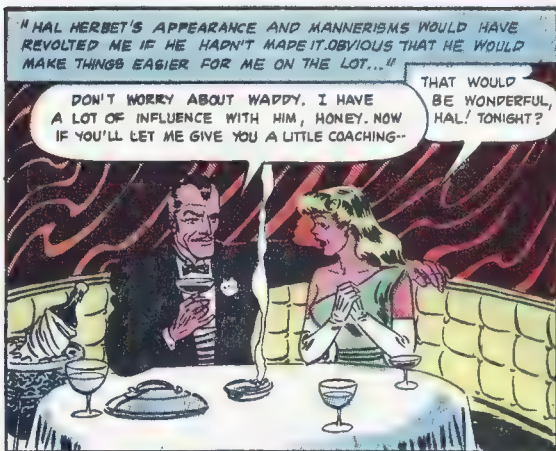
THEN IT'S A DATE, BABY, FOR DINNER AND THE WHOLE EVENING! SEE YOU AT SEVEN.

I'M MADLY IN LOVE WITH YOU, FLORINE! THINGS AREN'T GOING TOO WELL FOR YOU AT THE STUDIO. I CAN TELL. PLEASE DROP THE WHOLE BUSINESS FOR ME, DEAR.



BUT, BARRY DEAR! YOU SHOULDN'T ASK ME TO GIVE UP MY CAREER!





"BUT HAL DROVE ME HOME BEFORE MIDNIGHT, FOR WE HAD TO BE ON THE LOT AT SEVEN A.M. FOLLOWING HAL'S COACHING, I DID ALL RIGHT..."

CUT! THAT

WAS SWELL, MISS CLAY! BUT WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE DONE IT THAT WAY THE FIRST TIME?



"AT LUNCH IN THE STUDIO CAFETERIA, A COUPLE OF TWO-BIT PLAYERS, WHO HAD BEEN WITH THE STUDIO MUCH LONGER THAN I, GAVE ME SOME ADVICE..."

I SAW YOU WITH HAL HERBERT LAST NIGHT, FLO. I'D STAY AWAY FROM HIM IF I WERE YOU!

THERE'S A ROTTEN APPLE IN EVERY BARREL. MOST OF THE MEN IN OUR STUDIO ARE NICE... HAL IS THE EXCEPTION.

THE GIRLS ARE RIGHT, FLO!



I KNOW MY WAY AROUND, KIDS. DON'T PUT A BIG SISTER ACT ON FOR ME! WHEN I WANT IDEAS, I'LL SPEAK TO A STAR LIKE ELLEN DALE.

SPEAKING OF ELLEN DALE-- HERE SHE IS NOW!



MISS DALE-- YOU KNOW FLORINE CLAY, DON'T YOU?

OH, YES. ER-- FLORINE, MYRA TELLS ME YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE THAT OTHER GIRLS HAVE LIVED TO REGRET. IF YOU CAN'T GET AHEAD ON YOUR ABILITY, YOU'D BETTER QUIT PICTURES.

WHY, I--I--



I COURTED FAVORS FROM THE WRONG MEN, FLORINE. SURE-- I WON FAME, BUT NO ONE CAN SEE THE SCARS ON MY HEART. PLAY IT STRAIGHT-- AND YOU'LL NEVER SUFFER LIKE I DID!

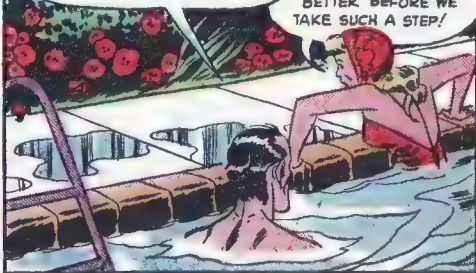
GOSH-- WELL, I DIDN'T KNOW, MISS DALE.



"FEAR OF LOSING HAL'S FAVOR STOOD IN THE WAY OF MY TAKING MISS DALE'S ADVICE, BUT IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, HAL EXPECTED MORE AND MORE ATTENTION FROM ME..."

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR, MONEY? LET'S ELOPE TO YUMA OVER THE WEEKEND.

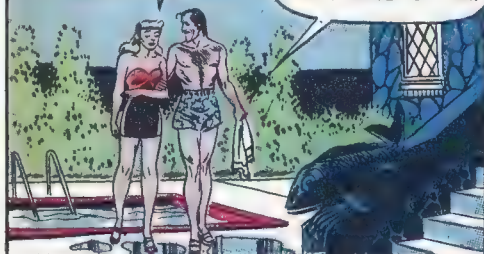
OH, HAL, YOU MUSTN'T BE SO IMPULSIVE! WE SHOULD KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER BEFORE WE TAKE SUCH A STEP!



"BUT HAL PERSISTED UNTIL THE POINT WAS REACHED WHEN I HAD TO TELL HIM HOW THINGS STOOD..."

...AND YOU MIGHT AS WELL KNOW THAT I'M NOT GOING TO CARRY ON AN AFFAIR WITH A MAN WHOM I HAVE NO INTENTION OF MARRYING!

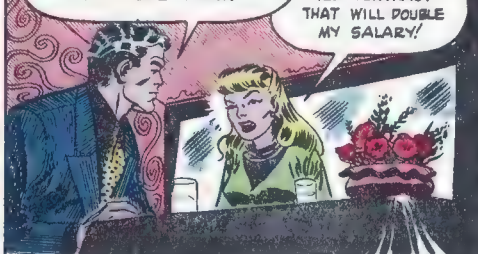
YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND, HONEY. JUST WAIT! I'LL GET YOU A NEW CONTRACT, DOUBLING YOUR SALARY, YOU'LL LIKE ME BETTER THEN.



"I HAD NO DOUBT THAT HAL COULD WRANGLE A BETTER CONTRACT FOR ME, AND WHEN THE PRODUCTION WAS HELD UP TWO DAYS LATER AND BARRY MADE A LUNCHEON DATE WITH ME, I FELT THAT HAL'S PROMISE WAS A SURE THING..."

I'LL BE LEAVING FOR BRAZIL IN TEN DAYS, DARLING. AREN'T YOU BECOMING BORED WITH PICTURE WORK?

QUITE THE CONTRARY, BARRY! IN FACT, I'M GETTING A NEW CONTRACT THAT WILL DOUBLE MY SALARY!



"IN SPITE OF MY BOASTFUL ATTITUDE, BARRY HADN'T LOST FAITH IN ME. AND I BEGAN TO BE THANKFUL FOR HIS PATIENCE..."

WELL, BOBBI, IT'S CHEAPER TO GIVE MISS CLAY A RAISE THAN TO MEET HAL'S DEMANDS TO DIRECT A PICTURE!

YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING THERE, ED. HAL WOULD WANT MORE THAN HE'S WORTH TO BE A DIRECTOR.



MR. HASKINS, THE PRODUCER-- AND ED GORDON, THE BUDGET DIRECTOR!

THINK HAL HAS ANY INTENTION OF MARRYING THE GIRL, ED?

IT WOULD BE A JOKE IF HE DID. HAL HAS NO RESPECT FOR WOMEN!



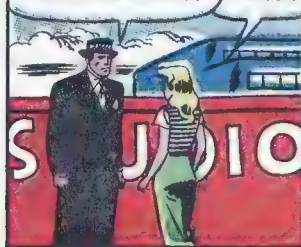
THEY DIDN'T SEE ME-- AND I'M AFRAID WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT HAL IS TRUE!



"HAL HAD A CONFERENCE THAT AFTERNOON, AND WHEN I LEFT THE STUDIO, BARRY WAS WAITING FOR ME..."

I CAME TO SAY GOODBYE, DARLING. FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EXPEDITION WILL KEEP ME BUSY. HOW ABOUT DINNER TONIGHT?

SORRY, BARRY, I'VE A DATE WITH MR. HERBET.



"LOOKING BACK NOW, I THINK IT WAS BARRY'S GOODBYE KISS THAT CHANGED MY MIND. HIS KISS WAS SO TENDER-- NOT THE HARD, PASSIONATE TYPE THAT HAL FORCED UPON ME..."

MAYBE YOU'LL FEEL DIFFERENTLY WHEN I RETURN, DARLING.

I'LL MISS YOU, BARRY!



"BARRY WAS CONSTANTLY ON MY MIND THAT NIGHT, AND AFTER HAL AND I DINED ON HIS PATIO, HE BECAME MORE POSSESSIVE THAN EVER TOWARD ME..."

"YOU'LL GET THE NEW CONTRACT TOMORROW, BABY. LET'S CELEBRATE ALL BY OURSELVES TONIGHT! I'M GIVING MY BUTLER THE EVENING OFF SO I CAN BE ALONE."

CONTRACT OR NO CONTRACT, I JUST CAN'T STAND HIM ANY LONGER. I MUST FIND AN OUT.



"I'LL TELL YOU WHAT, HAL. PICK ME A FEW WILD FLOWERS WHILE I GO UP TO THE HOUSE FOR A FEW MINUTES."

ANYTHING YOU SAY, BABY. I'LL GET YOU A PRIZE BUNCH!



"HAL FELL FOR THE RUSE, AND I RAN UP TO THE HOUSE AND FOUND A TELEPHONE..."

...AND PLEASE HURRY, BARRY! I'LL MEET YOU WHERE HIS PRIVATE ROAD TURNS FROM THE HIGHWAY.

I'LL BE THERE, DARLINGS!



"I'M GOING TO REST FOR A SPELL ON THE LIBRARY SOFA. TELL MR. HERBERT NOT TO DISTURB ME FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES"

ALL RIGHT, MISSY. I TELL HIM KEEP NICE AND QUIET.



"CLOSING THE LIBRARY DOOR, I FLED THROUGH A WINDOW TO THE BACK OF THE HOUSE AND DASHED MADLY TOWARD THE NARROW ROAD WHICH LED TO THE HIGHWAY..."

HAL IS SO SUSPICIOUS... I SUSPOSE HE WILL COME LOOKING FOR ME. BUT I WON'T GO BACK WITH HAL I CAN'T!

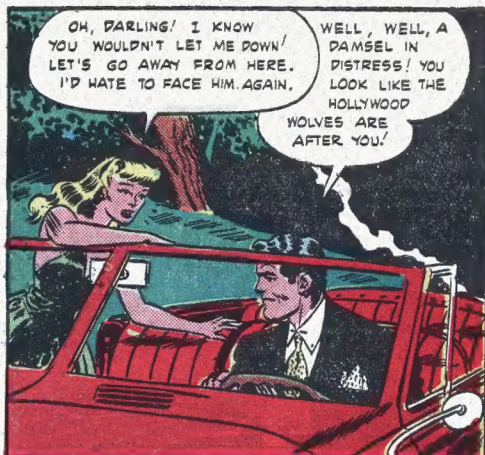


"I SPENT TWENTY DREADFUL MINUTES OUT BY THE HIGHWAY, FEARING THAT AT ANY MOMENT HAL WOULD RUN OUT AND FIND ME HIDING THERE..."

IT'S CHILDISH

OF ME IN A WAY. BUT I JUST COULDN'T PUT UP WITH HIM ANY LONGER. HE WILL FINISH ME AT THE STUDIO-- BUT I DON'T CARE ANY MORE.





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